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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Labour Officer, Kozhikode, enquired into the dispute on 20th August 1955. The parties came to a settlement and the 18 workers who were retrenched on 3rd August 1955 had been reinstated.

Sub-Registrar's Office for Theni town

* 3041 Q.—SRI K. MOOKKIAH THEVAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations, dated 2nd, 7th and 26th May 1955 from the public of Theni area in Madurai district in regard to the opening of a sub-registrar's office at Theni town; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (a) & (b) The Government have not received the representations under reference but the Inspector-General of Registration received representations on the subject, two in September 1954 and two in May 1955—one dated 2nd May 1955 and the other dated 7th May 1955. A representation, dated 23rd May 1955, was also received by the District Registrar, Madurai. The question of opening a Sub-Registry Office at Theni is now under examination by the Inspector-General of Registration.

MR. SPEAKER : I think there is a mistake. The question (3041) by the hon. Member Sri K. Mookkiah Thevar is put to the Hon. Minister for Revenue.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : I have already answered the question, Sir. (The Hon. Minister for Revenue : It has since been changed to the Hon. Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport.)

Hobarts' Teachers' Training School for Girls, Madras

* 3042 Q.—SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Hobarts' Teachers' Training School for Girls, Madras, has hostel accommodation; and

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal for opening a hostel in the near future?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Accommodation Controller has been addressed to allot a suitable building for the purpose and the hostel will be opened in due course if there is a real need.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister since there is a lot of difficulty experienced by the girls to find accommodation in Madras, whether the Government would take steps at least to rent a suitable building for housing the girls till a hostel is opened?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is what I said in answer to clause (b) of the question, namely, that the Accommodation Controller has been addressed to allot a suitable building for this purpose, that is, provision of a rented house.

Corporal punishment in schools

* 3043 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any steps to curb the practice of corporal punishment in schools?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Rules have been framed to the effect, that corporal punishment shall not be inflicted in schools except in the case of moral delinquency such as deliberate lying, obscenity of word or act or flagrant insubordination.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Sir, may I know whether the Government have received any complaint from any guardian stating that his child has been inflicted of corporal punishment and whether any action has been taken on such complaint? 9-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am sorry I do not have the information. If the hon. Member is interested, he may put a separate question.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, the Hon. Minister said in his answer that corporal punishment was inflicted in cases of moral delinquency such as deliberate lying, etc. In view of the general principles of education and principles of modern organization and discipline, are Government aware that this corporal punishment, which pertains to an old primitive age, is completely ruled out and will the Government, therefore, see that even in such matters infliction of corporal punishment is ruled out?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir., I do agree that there is difference of opinion with reference to corporal punishment. On the other hand, there is an opinion gathering now that corporal punishment is necessary especially during the younger age and that seems to be the expert opinion throughout the world. Therefore, if we are to take steps to abolish corporal punishment, let us await final opinion in this matter.

DR. K. B. MENON : Sir, are the Government aware that corporal punishment to students has been abolished in progressive countries, because the teachers who inflict corporal punishment may be saddists and because the punishment or the way in which it is inflicted is related to sex, corporal punishment is forbidden in British schools? Will the Government consider and investigate into these matters and abolish corporal punishment in schools?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I have discussed this subject with various international experts and they seem to think that a certain amount of corporal punishment at least is